



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

***Raised Bill No. 586***

LCO No. 2270

\*02270\_\_\_\_\_GAE\*

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE REORGANIZATION OF THE STATE ETHICS, ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONS IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT AND PROVIDING DEDICATED STATE FUNDING FOR SAID COMMISSIONS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) On or before October 15, 2004, the  
2       Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee shall report  
3       to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
4       cognizance of matters relating to government administration and  
5       elections on the feasibility of reorganizing the State Ethics  
6       Commission, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and the  
7       Freedom of Information Commission within the Judicial Department.  
8       Such report shall include, but not be limited to, considerations of  
9       separations of powers under the state constitution and the selection  
10      process for members of said commissions.

11      Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2004*) The State Ethics Commission,  
12      the State Elections Enforcement Commission and the Freedom of  
13      Information Commission shall each annually be funded by the General

14 Assembly in an amount equal to the amount of funding received by  
15 each commission in the previous year plus an amount to reflect the  
16 increase in the rate of inflation, as determined by increases in the  
17 consumer price index. Within available appropriations, the funding of  
18 each commission shall annually be increased by two per cent for  
19 purposes of adjustments to personnel salaries.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2004</i>

***Statement of Purpose:***

To examine the feasibility of placing the State Ethics, Elections Enforcement and Freedom of Information Commissions within the Judicial Department and to provide dedicated state funding for said commissions.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*